REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending and stand rejected and are therefore at issue.

Support for the Amendments

Claims 1 and 31-32 recite "preparing a time report from the respective start and stop times of the two or more session graphical representations". These amendments are supported at least by the Specification in the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 21.

No new matter is added.

The Claims are Allowable Over the Cited Art

Section 102 Rejections

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-3, 20, 21, 24-27, and 31-33 under Section 102(b) "as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,873,108 to Goyal et al." Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

As a preliminary matter, the Examiner gave "time accounting system" no patentable weight because the limitation occurs in the preamble. Applicant respectfully submits that this limitation should be given patentable weight for at least two reasons.

First, the text "of a time accounting system" was added in response to a prior art rejection asserted by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant is estopped from later arguing that such is not

limiting.

Second, Claim 33 as originally filed recites "a time accounting" graphical user interface. Thus, this language is not limited as merely preamble language and should be given patentable weight by the Examiner.

Furthermore, Claims 1 and 32-33 are amended to recite "preparing a time report from the respective start and stop times of the two or more session graphical representations" and therefore explicitly recite a time accounting system.

None of the references cited by the Examiner teach using these graphical user interface techniques in a time accounting system. Accordingly, all claims are allowable.

With respect to Claims 20 and 21, the Examiner cited the teaching of the current time display in Figure 3 of Goyal et al. However, Claim 20 recites display of a current time representation "in association with the time line." Goyal et al. teach only representation of a current time at the top of the display and not in association with any time line. Claim 21 recites "moving the current time representation such that the current time representation continues to represent the current time as time passes" (emphasis supplied). Since Goyal et al. do not teach associating the current time representation with a time line, Goyal. et al. evidence no appreciation for the need to move the current time representation (e.g., along the time line) to maintain currency of the representation. Claims 20-21 are therefore allowable independently of those reasons given above with respect to Claim 1.

Section 103 Rejections

The Examiner rejected Claims 4-11, 14-16, 19, 22, and 23 "under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,873,108 to Goyal et al. in view of 'Special Edition

Using Microsoft Outlook 2002' to Padwick." Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Padwick does not teach a time accounting system. Accordingly, all claims are allowable over Goyal et al. and Padwick for at least the reasons given above with respect to Claim 1, assuming arguendo that such combination is properly motivated in the prior art.

Claim 6 recites "the task represented by the new instance of the session graphical representations is pre-selected according to user-generated task selection signals received previously to the user-generated input signals" (emphasis supplied). Padwick neither teaches nor suggests that the category of a session representation can be determined prior to specifying the the session representation start and stop times. Claim 6 is therefore allowable for reasons other than those give above with respect to Claim 1.

Claim 19 recites "modifying a selected one of the session graphical representations from an unapproved state to an approved state in response to the user-generated input signals." While approval is used in time accounting systems prior to billing for the recorded time, scheduling software taught by Goyal et al. and Padwick evidence no appreciation for the need to include an unapproved state prior to approval. Claim 19 is therefore allowable for reasons other than those give above with respect to Claim 1.

Claim 22 recites "creating a new instance of the session graphical representations with a first time representation associated with the current time representation." In rejecting Claim 22, the Examiner described Padwick as teaching that "When creating a new appointment with the user of the appointment form, the appointment form defaults to the current date and a 30-minute appointment." First, Applicant respectfully notes that Padwick teaches that the default date is

not the current date but is instead "the day selected in the Date Navigator." Thus, the default date of a new appointment is user-specified and not the current date. Second, Claim 1 recites a "current *time* representation," not the current date. Padwick neither teaches nor suggests any current time representation on any timeline and neither teaches nor suggests creating a new start time at the represented current time. Claim 22 is therefore allowable independently of the reasons given above with respect to Claim 1.

The Examiner rejected Claim 12 "under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,873,108 to Goyal et al. in view of US Patent No. 5,873,108 to Berman et al." Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Berman et al. teach a scheduling system and not a time accounting system. Accordingly, Claim 12 is allowable over Goyal et al. and Berman et al. for at least the reasons given above with respect to Claim 1, assuming arguendo that such combination is motivated in the prior art.

The Examiner rejected Claim 13 "under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,873,108 to Goyal et al. in view of US Patent No. 5,873,108 ... and further in view of 'Special Edition Using Microsoft Outlook 2002' to Padwick." Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

In support of this rejection, the Examiner cited Padwick as teaching that the InfoBar warns of any attempt to create an appointment that conflicts with an existing appointment. What Padwick does not teach or suggest is the "moving [of] the start time representation of the second session graphical representation to avoid being coincident with the start time representation of the selected graphical representation as moved" as recited by Claim 13. This feature is

sometimes referred to as "bumping" and is described in the Specification in the paragraph

beginning on page 4 at line 24 and is shown in Figures 12-15 and is described further in the

accompanying text of the Specification. Since none of the subject references teach or suggest

moving another session to avoid a conflict with a moved session, Claim 13 is allowable over the

combined references, assuming arguendo that such combination is properly motivated in the

prior art.

The Examiner rejected Claims 27-30 "under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

US Patent No. 5,873,108 to Goyal et al. in view of 'Sams Teach Yourself PalmPilot and Palm III

in 10 Minutes' to Steinberg." Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and requests

reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Steinberg teaches a scheduling system and not a time accounting system. Accordingly,

Claims 27-30 is allowable over Goyal et al. and Steinberg for at least the reasons given above

with respect to Claim 1, assuming arguendo that such combination is motivated in the prior art.

Claim 29 recites "limiting the new [coincident] instance of the session graphical

representations to a predetermined maximum duration." The Examiner cites Steinberg as

teaching that the user can specify a duration of an appointment. However, Applicant respectfully

submits that allowing the user to specify any duration is not "limiting [the duration] to a

predetermined maximum duration" as recited in Claim 29. In fact, the Examiner cites no such

teaching or suggestion in the combined references. Accordingly, Claim 29 is allowable over the

combined references assuming arguendo that such combination is properly motivated in the prior

art.

Claim 30 recites "limiting chronologically coincident session graphical representations in

number for any given time interval." While the Examiner cites a Figure of Steinberg showing no more than two appointments at the same time, Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in Steinberg teaches or suggests that the user cannot add a third appointment at the same time, and a fourth, and a fifth, and so on. In other words, Steinberg neither teaches nor suggests that the number of coincident appointments is limited as recited by Applicant's Claim 30. Accordingly, Claim 30 is allowable over the combined references assuming arguendo that such combination is properly motivated in the prior art.

Conclusion

Claims 1-36 are now in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner's next action is other than for allowance of Claims 1-36 or if the Examiner has any questions or comments with respect to the above identified case, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at (510) 336-1100.

Respectfully submitted,
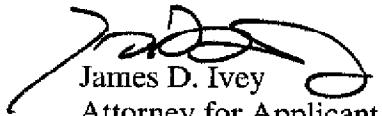
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